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The TAHRIK-I-JADID

Editor

Naseem Saifi

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RAMAZAN 1389 H.Q.
NABUWAT 1348 H.S.
NOVEMBER 1969 A.D.

Maulvi Maqbool Ahmad Zabih (left) ex-Missionary for East Africa left for West Africa on 21st Sept. 1969
Maulvi Mansoor Ahmad Bashir (right) also left for West Africa.

مکرم مولوی مقبول احمد صاحب ذبیح (بائیں جانب) جو پہلے مشرقی افریقہ میں تبلیغ اسلام کا فریضہ سرانجام دے چکے ہیں ۲۱ ستمبر کو مغربی افریقہ کے لئے روانہ ہوئے۔ مکرم مولوی منصور احمد صاحب بشیر بھی مغربی افریقہ میں تبلیغ اسلام کے لئے تشریف لے گئے

Maulana Mohammad Sadiq left for Indonesia on 24th Sept. He has already served the Far East for spreading the message of Islam there, for many years.

محترم مولانا محمد صادق صاحب ۲۴ ستمبر ۱۹۶۹ء کو انڈونیشیا کے لئے بغرض تبلیغ اسلام ربوہ سے روانہ ہوئے۔ آپ اس سے پہلے بھی ایک لمبے عرصے تک مشرق بعید میں تبلیغ اسلام کا فریضہ سرانجام دے چکے ہیں

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

THE

TAHRIK-I-JADID

MONTHLY

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The

TAHRIK-I-JADID

A magazine for reporting the day to day progress of Islamic Missions all over the world. It also tells you how religious confrontation is taking place and where and how Islam is winning converts.

This magazine also carries the gist of the Friday Sermons and other speeches made by the Supreme Head of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat—Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III—and reports the events taking place at the International Headquarters of the Jamaat—Rabwah—Pakistan.

The subscription of the Magazine is only Two Rupees for one year in Pakistan and India and seven shillings or one Dollar abroad. Address communications to the Editor at the following address :

c/o Tahrik-i-Jadid, Rabwah. (Pakistan)

c/o Ahmadiyya Mission in your own country—to be redirected by the Mission concerned.

Managing Editor

The Second Adam

This is one of the glaring proofs of the truthfulness of the claim to prophethood by the Holy Prophet Mohammad, peace and blessings of God be upon him, that he was raised at a time when the world was covered with pitch darkness and the time demanded a great Reformer and he passed away from this world when hundreds of thousands of people had totally abandoned associating others with God and idol worship and they had in fact chosen the path of truthfulness and belief in the oneness of God. The fact is that this total reformation could be brought about by no one but he alone; he taught the human habits to those who were a people with beast-like nature. In other words it can be said that he made human beings out of beasts and then took them still forward by making them educated human beings, and then onward by making them such human beings as were fully God conscious. They were filled with the spirit of God awareness and they got themselves very close to their Creator. They were slaughtered like goats in the way of God and they were trampled down under the feet like the ants but they did not leave the chord of Faith, rather every trial and tribulation made them move forward. Thus there can be no doubt that in so far as the establishment of the spiritual sense is concerned, the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be upon him, was the second Adam through whom all the human excellences reached their peak and all the powers of virtue were put to work.

(Lecture Sialkot)

Notes & Comments

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Khutba

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III advised in his Sermon on Friday, the 12th of Tabuk (September) that everyone should learn by heart the first seventeen verses of Sura Baqara and try to understand their meaning and wider significance. These verses deal among other things with the basic short comings of the hypocrites.

This Khutba was delivered at Karachi Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said that the world is divided into three types of people. One, those who believe that physical and intellectual capabilities are always devoted to the achievement of the will of God. They brighten up themselves with the heavenly light and enlighten the whole of the world and they also very firmly believe in the prophecies which are foretold to the beloved of God. They have a strong faith in the manifestation of the attributes of God and they look at the promises of God as they are a thing already fulfilled. They always try to do as much of good as they possibly can and thus be deserving of greater rewards.

The other type of people, God says, are those who do not believe in Islam as a true religion. The reason why they do not believe in Islam is that they have lost the power that God had given them to accept the truth cheerfully and to make the required sacrifice. They had been endowed with the capability of being influenced by spiritual matters through which they could learn a lot, but their hearts became hardened like the stones and they got their natures perverted. They, therefore could not perform the deeds that are in total accord with human nature.

The people who belong to the third type are those who say that they believe in Allah and the last Day but in fact they have no faith at all. Their claim is false. God mentions the first two types of people briefly for whatever they do is an open book and everybody can understand them easily. As for the third type, He makes mention of them in a greater detail. They say one thing and they do another thing. Thus, people can be easily deceived by them. They are like the snake in the grass, hidden but ready to sting.

However God says that the hypocrites can never succeed against His beloved servants. In fact Gad has bracketed the true Believers with Himself by saying that the hypocrites cannot succeed against Us. Hazrat Khalifatul Masih described the traits of a hypocrite in some details and advised the Jamaat to beware of such persons.

Our Ijtemaat

Last month was the month of Ijtemaat. (plural of Ijtema) Lajna Imaullah, Majlis Ansarullah, Majlis Khuddamul Ahmadiyya and Majlis Atfalul Ahmadiyya—all of them held their Ijtema at Rabwah, the Universal Headquarters of the Jamaat. The Lajna Imaullah, Khuddamul Ahmadiyya and Atfalul Ahmadiyya held their Ijtema on 17th-19th of October and Ansarullah's Ijtema was held on the 24th—26th of October. The Lajna's Ijtema was held at the premises of the Lajna Offices, the Atfal held the Ijtema at the Aiwani-Mahmud, the Khuddam in and around the Masjid Aqsa while the Ansarullah held their Ijtema at the premises of their Central Offices.

Sayeda Ummi Matin, the President General of the Lajna delivered the opening speech at the Ijtema of the Lajna. She welcomed all those who had come to participate in the occasion and prayed to God that He may shower His blessings on them

all. Dilating on the aims of the Ijtema she remarked that according to the teachings of the Holy Quran the following things had to be kept in view :

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(1) To make necessary arrangements for the welfare of the poor and to widen the circle of the service for fellow beings thus making every Ahmadi woman a personified mercy for others That is what can really give birth to Islamic Society.

(2) To urge every body to do good and eschew evil. It is the duty of all the members of the Lajna to uproot any evil that comes to their notice however small it may seem to be. But they should do so with love and affection and in a most courteous manner.

(3) The third thing that according to the Holy Quran is vital in connection with the holding of the Ijtema is that disputes should be settled and people should be brought nearer to each other.

Before closing her speech, she drew the attention of the audience to the schemes that Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III has presented to the members of the Lajna all over the world, to contribute generously towards the Speeial Fund (Five hundred thousand rupees) which she had inaugurated some time age. She told the audience that there were a number of items on hand which required money and unless every body subscribed to her full capacity, the programmes could not be followed up with full satisfaction. After this opening speech, messages from Lajnas of Indonesia, Mauritius and Nairobi were read out.

The other items on the programme were acted upon accordingly. The attendance was estimated to be in the vicinity of four thousand—quite encouraging attendance.

The opening speech at the Atfalul Ahmadiyya Ijtema was delivered by Sahibzada Mirza Tahir Ahmad (who was then the President of the Khuddamul Ahmadiyya) who advised the children to show a picture of Islam in their lives. For this, he said, they should keep in view the lives of the Holy Prophet of Islam, peace and blessings of God be upon him, and the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.

The Ijtema of the Khuddam was opened by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih. In his Address he told the Khuddam how the grace of God descends and what is the real significance of this Grace and how we can show our gratefulness to God for this favour of His.

The Holy Quran says—the Khalifatul Masih remarked, that God's grace descends in abundance on human beings but there are very few who have any sense of gratitude in them.

Dilating on the meaning of the word Grace (Fazl) he further said that God grants four powers or capacities to human beings and they are : physical, Mental, Moral and Spiritual. He can develop all these powers. The real and true gratefulness for these powers is that we should use them in the most appropriate manner.

Coming to the Khuddamul Ahmadiyya, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih said that all the programmes that have been chalked out for the Khuddam centre round these very four powers.

It is very imperative for our youth, rather for all our coming generations, that they should always strive to make the best use of these powers and to always improve upon them. Their powers should in fact be utilised in the service of God.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih wound up his speech by saying that he had just made brief references to the main theme of his subject and that he would like to dilate on these points in his farewell address at the closing of the Ijtema.

The Ijtema of Majlis-i-Ansarullah

was inaugurated by Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III with a speech in which he drew the attention of the audience to the fact that all the spiritul and secular progress of the Muslims depended on their following the footsteps of the Holy Prophet, Mohammad, peace and blessings of God be upon him. He said this with special reference to service for the fellowbeings (in fact the whole human race), to do good to them, showing utmost sympathy and concern and to befriend them (low and high, all alike——rather, low more than the high).

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III remarked that these qualities were to be found in the life of the Holy Prophet in their most perfect form and that it was required of all the Muslims to imbibe these qualities.

In his closing address on the 26th of October, Hazrat Khalifatul Masih referred to the four basic attributes (Ummahatus Sifat—the mothers of all the attributes) of God viz: Rabbul Aalamin (the Sustainer of the Worlds); Rahman (who gives freely and without asking). Rahim (who grants reward for good deeds and in fact makes up the deficiency that is left in our doing good deeds) Malik-i-Yaum-id-Din (who is the master of the Day of Judgment—not like a judge who is bound by the law, but like a Master and a King. who can forgive when He likes and grant more than what my be expected as a reward. All the Ijtemaat were brought to end with fervent prayers.

Talimul Quran Committees

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih has instructed the members of the Jamaat to form Talimul Quran Committees to further the cause of the reading and understanding the Holy Quran. The following five members of every Jamaat should form a Committee:

1. The Amir or the President
2. The Secretary Islaho Irshad
3. The President for the Musis (those who pay contributions according to the will of the Promised Messiah, peace be on him.)
4. Zaeem, Ansarullah
5. Qa-id, Khuddamul Ahmadiyya.

It will be the duty of this Committee in every Jamaat to see to it that everybody could read the Holy Quran and those who have finished the reading of the Holy Quran should try to learn its meanings and go further to understand the commentary. The time limit that has been fixed for this task is a year and a half.

(The above mentioned instruction of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih has been released by Maulvi Abul Ata, Additional Nazir, Islaho Irshad (Talimul Quran).

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Missionary activities

Major Abdul Hamid who had been a Missionary in the United States of America for more than three years left for Japan on 5th of September after a short stay at the Headquarters. In a letter addressed to the Al-Fazl he says that for the time being he is staying at the Asia Centre. This is the place where most of the British, the Americans, the Canadians, the Australians and the Africans stay. He has therefore got very good opportunity of preaching to the peoples of these nationalities. Since he could not carry literature for free distribution with him, he wrote to the Vakalat-i-Tabshir for it and it was sent to him without any delay. Those who received these booklets were very pleased to have them and showed gratefulness for the knowledge that they obtained from these booklets.

One of those whom the Major contacted is Dr. Isa who practises medicine in Seoul, the Capital of South Korea. The Doctor's uncle Haji Sabari is the President of the Muslim Association in his country and has great love for the work of preaching. In view of the fact that the condition of the Muslims in Korea

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is not very satisfactory in the eyes of Haji Sabari has sent Dr. Isa to visit the Muslim countries and find out what could be done to improve their lot. Dr. Isa intends to proceed to Malaysia where he is going to stay for a period of three months and then move on to the Arab lands. The Major says that he delivered the message of Ahmadiyyat to the Doctor and advised him to visit Pakistan and while in Pakistan to go to Rabwah as well.

In order to be able to talk to the people fluently, Major Abdul Hamid is seriously learning Japanese language for which purpose he has joined some classes teaching Japanese. He requests all the friends to pray for his success.

Maulvi Maqbool Ahmad Qureshi, Missionary in charge, United States of America, writes to report to the Head Office that he was glad to have got the opportunity to address the students in the Schools and Colleges. The students were provided the chance of asking questions and it was very pleasing to note that they took great interest in the lectures which was evinced by the large number of questions they asked.

Maulvi Shukr Ilahi Hussain was invited by a Church Organisation in Glanco to address their members. The audience was mostly people from the middle class engaged in trading business. The Church served the Dinner after the speech and that provided an occasion for individual attention to the people.

Sayed Jawad Ali was invited by a Unitarian Church in Bathesda to address the students of a class which had been organised to teach comparative religion. Sayed Jawad Ali spoke for fortyfive minutes and the questions that followed continued for another half an hour. Islamic literature was also distributed to the interested young people.

Sayed Jawad Ali who is the Secretary of the Ahmadiyya Mission in the States further says that wherever the Pakistani Missionaries are stationed, quite a large number of truthseekers bring their religious problems to them and our Missionaries do all they can to solve them. As it has been reported even before, mostly it is the students and the professors who are day by day getting more and more interested in Islam and would like to write thesis for the Universities. It is a good sign indeed.

Another activity of the Missionaries which is highly commendable is that they cater for the needs of the Asians and Africans who go to the States and have nobody to look after them.

The distribution of literature forms an important item on the programme of the Missions.

Mr. Shukr Ilahi Hussain took part in two television programmes which aimed at providing the people with Islamic knowledge. This made the message reach hundreds of thousands of people and a number of letters were received from various parts of the country.

Yaumut Tabligh was observed with great fervour. Almost all the members of the Jamaat took part in delivering the message of Islam in their vicinities by personal talks and through booklets and pamphlets freely distributed to all and sundry.

The Mission in the states is producing the Muslim Sunrise as well as the Ahmadiyya Gazette. Both of them are being edited by Maulvi Maqbool Ahmad Qureshi.

Cracking Walls:

The International African Institute devoted its seventh international Seminar held at the University of Ghana in 1965 to "Christianity in Tropical Africa." Revd Bolaji Idowo of Ibadan (Nigeria) is reported to have said at the Seminar

(the proceedings of the Seminar are published under the title "Christianity in Tropical Africa"):

"If the walls of a building are cracking ominously, the best remedy is not to keep watching them up here and there. It is to examine the foundation carefully and effect the necessary repairs."

He also said at the same Seminar:

"It is now obvious that by a misguided purpose, a completely new God who had had nothing to do with the past of Africa was introduced to her peoples. Thus there was no proper foundation for the Gospel message.....In consequence, the Church has on her hand Communities of believers who, by and large, live ambivalent spiritual lives. Christianity to them is a fasnionable religion which has the habit of beginning and ending within the walls of a church building, it does not reach those vital areas of the personal needs of Afrians....."

Indeed the walls of the edifice of Christianity are cracking and a vast number of Christian theologians—some of very high rank——are examining the foundation to effect the necessary repair.

Annual Jalsa

The Nazir Islaho Irshad has announced, with the sanction of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III that the Annual Jalsa this year will be held on the 26th to 28th of Fatah 1348 (26th to 28th of December, 1969).

It will be noted that more than a hundred thousand people attended the Jalsa last year. They came not only from various parts of Pakistan but also from India and quite a number of other countries of the world.

In addition to the usual Day sessions, one evening session is also held every year.

Hazrat Khalifatul Masih addresses the Gathering on two days———the second day and third day in addition to his inaugural speech.

The subjects to be dealt with by other speakers are mostly connected with various aspects of the teachings of Islam and moral and spiritual training of the Jamaat.

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Hadith

Hazrat Rafe bin Mualla, may God be pleased with him, reports: The Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be upon him, said to me: Should I not teach you the greatest (in significance) of the Holy Quran before you go out of the Mosque. Then he held my hand. When we were about to come out of the Mosque I said to the Holy Prophet, peace and blessings of God be upon him, you said; should I not teach you the greatest of the Suras of the Holy Quran! He said "Al-hamdo Lillahi Rabbil Alamin ———these are the seven verses revealed and to be read again and again. This is the greater Quran that has been given to me.

Physics Laboratories of The T. I. College.

The Physics Block of the T. I. College, Rabwah which has been built and equipped at the cost of hundreds of thousands of Rupees was declared open by the Ex-vice Chancellor of the University of the Punjab——Mian Afzal Hussain—whose fame as a scientist has reached far and wide. The function took place on the 12th of October, in the presence of a large number of invitees from Rabwah, Lahore and some other places.

In his Address which he delivered extempore, Mian Afzal Hussain remarked that it was after fourteen years that he was revisiting Rabwah and he was glad to see that the great hopes that he had expressed on his first visit have been completely fulfilled. He was glad to see the phenomenal progress of this almost barren land, especially in the field of education.

He dilated on the present system of education in the country and

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Welcome to Nigeria

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Below we reproduce the text of a welcome address given to the H.E. the High Commissioner for Pakistan in Nigeria by the Ahmadiyya Jamaat in that country. Editor

Your Excellency,

Assalamo alaikum wa Rahmatullah, wa Barakatohu.

We, the undersigned, on behalf of ourselves, the members of the Management Committee and the entire members of the Nigerian Branch of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Nigeria, do feel a great honour in according your Excellency with this our humble Reception cum Dinner Party as a token of our sincere love and affection to the Government and people of Pakistan. How the honour of welcoming your Excellency falls particularly to our lot, is not far to seek.

It is an open secret that the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of which we are proud to be graciously belonging to is a part of the parent Community of the partition-Indian subcontinent with its centre at Qadian, and then, after the partition, in Rabwah, the very Fountain head in Pakistan from where we get all our aspirations and spiritual succour. That is that. Again, by virtue of religious and emotional attachment which every member of Ahmadiyya Community feels to have towards Pakistan, irrespective of where he is, our Missionaries with entire Jamat on their back seem to be as good and faithful ambassadors for Pakistan as any could be imagined. I have every justification to say this in view of the efforts of the Nigerian Ahmadiyya Community exerted in firmly rooting the name of Pakistan among our country-men long before Pakistan High Commission was established here.

When the noble cause of Pakistan was being defamed by certain section of the Nigerian Press, for instance, and prejudiced by ill-informed sources like George Padmore started their malicious propaganda against Pakistan and its Great Founder, it was Maulvi Nasim Saifi as the leader of our Jamat who was there to champion the cause of this biggest Islamic State emerging on the map of the world.

It was he who wrote in the Nigerian Statesman, Dec. 6, 1947; "Since the All-India Muslim League has passed the Lahore resolution for the attainment of separate home land under the name of Pakistan the opposition has left no stone unturned to show the world that the Muslims and Hindus constitute one nation. The only thing is that the people want us to live on words while we want to live on our experience."

It was commonly alleged by propagandists that Mr. M. A. Jinah, the beloved political leader of the Indian Muslims, was built up by the Britishers in opposition to Nehru. Again, our Missionary was there to close their mouth by saying:

"If Mr. Jinah was built up by British, Lord Mountbattan would be the first Governor General of Pakistan instead of India." (The Nigerain Statesman, Jan. 24, 1948)

Under the heading "Ahmadiyya Missioner talks on life in Pakistan". the Nigerian Daily Times of March 24, 1948, wrote :-

"At 8 p.m. on March 17, Maulvi Naseem Saifi, B. A., the Ahmadiyya Missioner, Nigeria, gave a fifteen-minute talk on life in Pakistan on the Lagos Radio Distribution Service."

The Daily Service of September

13, 1948 published a very lengthy article of the Incharge of the Mission in which the latter emphasized:

"The Muslims of Nigeria, as I have said, are a part and parcel of the Muslim world and the Muslim world today has Pakistan as its biggest state. In view of this, may I advise the political workers in this country not to offend the Muslims by using Pakistanism derogatively? May I advise my Muslim brethren also that Islam being above all geographical boundaries, it is time they acclaimed the cause of the Muslims of Pakistan as their own cause and their leaders as their own leaders."

Even the name Pakistan had got to be understood by the people at large. So the the Daily Service, September, 15, 1948 wrote in its Editorial:

"What is Pakistan and how did it come about, our fellow press writers would have to find out before they could responsibly associate it with anything bad. Perhaps a little industry would have helped to realise that Pakistan represents one of the noblest political ideals a people could aim at."

That it was due to the untiring efforts of our Missionary Incharge, the paper had to admit in the same editorial.

"Yesterday, we concluded the very informative article from the Indian Missionary, Maulvi N. M. Saifi specially contributed to the Daily Service and perhaps a careful perusal would tend to check the folly of irresponsible talk by professional liars and twisters"

Our Missionary Incharge was even ridiculed by the opposite circles, to the extent of being called as the "New-Found Hero" of the Daily Service who called upon all Muslims to supprot Pakistan.

(West African Pilot Sept. 17, 1948).

A perpetual campaign however, was to be carried out to eradicate the use of the word "Pakistanism" The Progressive Union of the North protested, too. The article of the Union published in the Daily Times of August 10, 1951 commended the services of our Missionary in the following words.

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"The local Ahmadiyya Missioner, who is a Pakistani Muslim, has repeatedly appealed to the British Government in Nigeria and particularly the Nigerian press, against the corrupt use of the word Pakistanism or Pakistanisation to the annoyance of the Pakistan Government; but his appeal fell on deaf ears. We, the members of the Northern Elements Progressive Union are Muslims. Anything which affects the good name of the Government of Pakistan, nay all Muslim countries, affects us of the Northern Elements Progressive Union."

I feel, Your Excellency, as if we had to teach our countrymen the word "Pakistan" in the like manner as alphabets are taught to a beginner. So wrote a paper: "Pakistan, as a matter of fact, is an Urdu word composed of Pak and Stan. Pak means the pure i.e. Muslim and Stan means the abode. Pakistan, therefore, means the abode of the pure poeple i.e. the Muslims."

Here at home, we are not less ardent in advocating the cause of Islam and in elevating the name of Mohammad, our Prophet and Benefactor to the right dignity and honour he deserves.

We have the honour, for instance, to establish the first Muslim school in Nigeria. In the medical field, too, we are so far the first and only Muslim organisation to establish clinics. We run the first and the only Muslim Newspaper, "The Truth," in Nigeria, which serves through its papers the religion—Islam and the Muslim cause both at

home and abroad.

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With this brief introduction to the work of our Community in Nigeria we welcome Your Excellency whole-heartedly to this Country and wish Your Excellency a pleasant stay and brilliant success in the noble cause of bringing the two sister countries Pakistan and Nigeria closer together.

We take this opportunity to request Your Excellency and the poeple of Pakistan to pray for the immediate end of the war which has been imposed on us by a section of our own people.

Your Excellency, Sir, please, accept from us our sincere greetings of love and peace for onward transmission to the President, Government and the people of Pakistan.

We are, Sir,

Yours in Islam

F.I. ANWERI
Amir & Missionary Incharge.

S O. BAKARE
President

ALHAJ A.G. KUKU
Vice President.

ALHAJI A. A. ABIOLA
Vice President.

Dr. F. SALAWU
Vice President.

Dr. UMAR-UD-DIN
Medical Adviser

Bro. A.R.A. OTULE
Secretary General.

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deplored it very much. He wanted to see necesary changes effected in accordance with the advancing needs of the people of this country. As for the advancement of the scientific knowledge, he remarked that whereas the Americans had reached the Moon, we had not as yet solved the problem of the cow dung that is mostly used as fuel.

He also lamented the lack of science text books, for he said that the foreign books we have been using all along were not suitable in the least.

Earlier, the Acting Principal Professor Basharat Ur Rahman, had wolcomed the Guest of Honour and given a brief detail of the equipment of the Laboratories.

The guest of Honour and other guests were shown round the block and demonstrations were given as to how the work will be done there. The function was brought to a close with light refreshments.

Seventeen Verses

Addressing the Atfalul Ahmadiyya at their Annual Ijtema on the 18th of October, Harzrat Khalifatul Masih III instructed all the Atfal of the Jamaat to commit to memory the first seventeen verses of the Sura Baqara till the 26th of December1969.

The Muhtamim Atfal has called upon all the Atfal to memorise these seventeen verses and let him know at their earliest that they have done so.

A Word From Janab Rais-ut-Tabligh Jamaat Ahmadiyya Indonesia

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Since early foundation of Jamaat Ahmadiyya in Indonesia, a profound wish kept living in the heart of every member of the Community—male or female, old and young—that a translation of the Holy Qur'an should be produced as soon as possible.

To attain this holy purpose, various efforts had been taken, either by individuals or groups, yet it brought no such result as could be benefitted by all. It was possibly because God had not yet decreed His permission, as He said, "While you desire not a thing except that Allah, the Lord of the worlds, desires it" (81 : 30).

Hence, the honourable Janab Vakil-ut-Tabshir, Sahibzada Mirza Mubarak Ahmad H.A., B.A., during his first visit to Indonesia in 1963, expressedly enjoined the office bearers of the Central Executive Board and Majlis Shura Muballighin, to the effect that the cherished Translation should be materialized within the shortest period. For this end Mian Sahib formed a Committee, whose members began to carry out their task immediately thereafter

But, becaue the project was then too enormous, i e. to render the "Larger English Translation wit Commentary", while conditions at that time were also not so favourable, so the effort did not meet its completion.

At last, during his second visit in 1968, Janab Vakil-ut-Tabshir, gave more stress upon this project and gave stimulus in order to enhance the process of its translation and to get it printed and distributed as soon as possible.

In order to run this work smoothly, on October 24, 1968 at the occasion of a special meeting he decided that the work of translating the "Larger English Translation with Commentary" should be discontinued, in place of which it was just sufficient to translate "The Digest of the Large Commentary."

During the meeting Sahibzada Sahib had also instructed to form a new Board and to nominate its members and president. On this instruction, I nominated three persons out of the previous Board, namely: Jenab Mian Abdul Hayee H.P., Jenab Sukri Barmawi and Jenab R. Ahmad Anwar, and introduced a new member in addition, i.e. Jenab Maulavi Abdul Wahid H.A., with Jenab Mian Abdul Hayee H. P. as President. The nomination was well accepted and sanctioned by Jenab Vakil-ut-Tabshir Sahib.

In fact, to accomplish this heavy but holy task, I myself was instructed by Sahibzada Sahib to take an active part, especially in final corrections. But, because it could not be handled through half measures, rather should be carried out with full deliberation and attention, whereas I myself could not neglect my routine task, so for efficiency's sake I submitted this holy task absolutely to the four members of the Board whom I revere. It was just for creating a stimulant that I sometimes used to agitate them in order to intensify correctness, neatness and alertness in their work, and it always received a very pleasant response from their part.

Having this holy work become a reality, besides presenting thousand gratitude to Allah, I would like to congratulate all members of the Board in particular and to "Wisma Damai Foudation" and the whole members of Jamaat Ahmadiyya in Indonesia in general, while praying: May Allah accept and

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The Life of Mohammad

by Maulvi M.I. Munir

(Text of a talk given at Religious Leaders Day in Mauritius)

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Islam, the youngest of all religions can also claim to be the oldest. Because Islam means complete submission to the Will of God and this is the fundamental principle of all religions.

It was 1400 years ago that God chose Mohammad as His Messenger towards all of us and through him revealed the final and complete code of life—the Holy Qur'an.

Mohammad was "that Prophet" promised in the earlier scriptures and he appeared just in time when all were expecting him.

Mohammad was a human being—no more, no less—and therefore he could serve as a perfect example for mankind. **(Holy Qur'an, Ch. 18 : Verse 11).** He was subject to the same conditions and limitations as the rest of us. He suffered more than most and achieved outstanding success in his lifetime. Encyclopaedia Britannica also has recorded him as the most successful of all prophets.

Like other men, Mohammad was a son, a husband and a father. He had been a servant employed by a citizen subject to the authority of his town. God appointed him as a teacher and a guide. During the last ten years of his life, he was called upon to discharge the duties of chief executive, chief magistrate and head of a state. He discharged his duties successfully and a complete record of the same has been preserved. Hence the life of Mohammad is an open book even today. Let me present you only two aspects of his life :

1. His devotion to God.
2. His service to Humanity.

Mohammad's devotion to God.

1400 years ago, in Arabia, there was no civilization no organised society with economic stability. All kinds of evils were rampant. The Arabs used to worship idols of which there were some 365 in Ka'aba at Mecca, i. e. one idol for each day of the year. In such an environment Mohammad was born. But, Oh, wonder of wonders ! He remained pure and was in no way stained by the evil practices of that city. He worshipped the Only One God and bent his knees to no idol. Once the adversaries of the Holy Prophet approached his uncle Abu Twaleb with a proposition which they thought very attractive. They said that they were prepared to make Mohammad the king of all Arabia, to give him the most beautiful girl as wife and to lay all their wealth at his feet, provided he stopped his campaign against their gods. On hearing this, the Prophet said to his uncle : "If these people put the sun on my right hand and the moon on my left, even then I am not prepared to abandon my God and the mission He has entrusted to me."

Such was the devotion to God of the Prophet Mohammad, due to which God drew near to him and the spiritual communion between the two wrought a unity of purpose. The Holy Prophet has explained this experience in a very simple way. He has said that if a servant of God submits himself wholly to the Will of God and commits the whole direction of his life to it, he gradually achieves a condition in which God becomes the eyes with which he sees, the ears with which he hears, the

hands with which he labours and the feet with which he walks.

One anecdote may explain this point further. In the Battle of Badr, the Prophet had to defend himself against 1000 well armed invaders. His 313 half-starved and ill-armed Muslims gained a complete victory—an unthin kable thing. How did it happen ? During the height of the battle, the prophet took up a handful of pebbles and sand and threw it in the direction of the enemy. A strong gust of wind happened to rise suddenly, blowing from the Muslim's side in direction of their enemies. This carried with it the whole storm of pebbles and sand and contributed to the defeat of the enemy. God mentions this incident in the Holy Qur'an :

> "You (o prophet) slew them not, but it was Allah Who slew them. Thou threwest not when thou didst throw, but it was Allah Who threw, that He (Allah) might overthrow the disbelievers and that He might confer on the believers a great favour from Himself. Surely, Allah is All-Hearing, All-Knowing".
>
> **(H. Qur'an, Ch. 8 : Verse 18).**

The Prophet Mohammad loved God and God loved him and conferred great favours on him. One of those is the Holy Qur'an—which was needed for the guidance of mankind. In it a promise was made to the Prophet that Allah would protect him from the people. That promise of God was maintained till his death. Once, all the leading tribesmen conspired to kill the Prophet. They besieged his house. But under God's command, the Prophet succeeded in outwitting his would-be murderers. He left the house at the dead of night and took refuge in the cave of Thaur. The enemies followed his traces up to the mouth of the cave. The fellow companion of the Prophet, Hazrat Abu Bakr showed signs of great anxiety on hearing the enemies talking outside. But the Prophet Mohammad comforted him, saying : "Don't worry, God is with us". **(H. Qur'an, Ch. 9 : V. 40)**

(More ot follow)

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Continued from page 10

grant multiple reward to all of you, brothers and sisters, who have participated in bringing into being this translation of the Commentary. Amin, Amin, ya Rabbal 'alamin.

Although I could not properly contribute my services to this holy project, but, I feel very much contented, as I have witnessed the fulfilment of the long cherished wish of the Jamaat. Not only witnessing, but Insha Allah will be benefitted as well.

In order that we might draw much more favour and blessings of God by means of the appearance of the translation of the Holy Quran, let us pay attention and ponder upon a very important message of our Holy Prophet Mohammad s a.w. :

"It is reported by Imam Al-Baihaqi on the authority of a companion called Ubaidah Mulaiki, saying that the Holy Prophet said : 'O followers of the Quran, do not handle the Quran as a pillow. Read it with a correct reading during the night and the day. And disseminate it and consider it to be sufficient; and ponder over what is written in it so that you may be happy; and do not make haste to get its reward. as there is a provision of great reward for it'" (Mishkat, p. 192).

Only such is my word of introduction as requested by the President of the Board.

Wassalam
from a humble person who is very much in need of prayers,
Abu Bakr Ayyub H.A.
Rais-ut-Tabligh.

From the Newspapers

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The weekly Post Southall, Hayes and Hounslow (England) published the following in its issue for 4. 9. 1968. "Jesus died in India" claim by Muslims.

"THE CURIOSITY of many Christians was aroused when several Muslims marched through the streets of Hounslow, Hayes, Southall and Ealing recently. It isn't surprising that people took notice when placards were inscribed with such things as "Jesus did not die on the cross," "Jesus died in India" and "Islam is a Universal Religion."

"As the Muslims marched and handed out leaflets, outlining the fundamental teachings of Islam, they were met with shouts of abuse and such comments as "He must have died of starvation."

"Islam is trying to prove, through new historical discoveries, that Jesus lived to the age of 120 and died a natural death in India and was buried at Kashmir. The Promised Messiah, they believe to be Hazrat Ahmad of Qadian, India.

"They are trying to make it known, that Islam not only preaches equality of mankind and harmony of human races, but actually practices it by granting equal rights to men and women of all races by eliminating discrimination of every kind."

The New Nigerian published the following news item in its issue for October 1, with a picture of Hazrat Khalifatul Masih III.

"The supreme Head of the Ahmadiyya world organisation, Hazrat Hafiz Mirza Nasir Ahmad, the Khalifatul Masih III, has expresssd his deep concern and anxiety over the burning of Al-Aqsa Mosque in Jerusalem.

Speaking on the grave issue in his Friday sermon delivered at Ahmadiyya Hall, Karachi, Pakistan, the Khalifa suggested to the Government of Pakistan to take effective measures.

"The Jews have, by this ignoble action, challenged the jealousy of the Muslims. Therefore it is the moral obligation of entire Muslim world to respond to this grave challenge", he said.

Ahmadiyya Sect is Commended

The *New Nigerian* published the following in its issue for September, 25.

The Kano State Commissioner for Local Government, Alhaji Maitama Sule has paid glowing tribute to the Pakistani-founded Ahmadiyya Mission Nigeria for its big role in promoting Islam in the country and also in providing education and other social services to the people of Nigeria.

Welcoming the High Commissioner for Pakistan to Nigeria, Dr. S. M. Koreshi, at a reception in his honour in Kano last Saturday, Alhaji Yusuf noted that it was most encouraging to see the practical fulfilment of the Islamic injuction as regards the search for knowledge by the mission.

He observed that intensifying their work in social sectors through establishment of hospitals, clinics and dispensaries and by translating the Holy Quran into many other languages so that others could understand the teachings of Islam, the mission had demonstrated to the world that it was out to help others in the name of

Allah.

Speaking on the Nigerian crisis, the commissioner expressed his gratitude for the role the Government of Pakistan had played in its unequivocal support for the preservation of the territorial integrity of Nigeria.

He said that as developing countries, both Pakistan and Nigeria had many things in common, and expressed the hope that the fraternal friendship existing between the two countries would continue to grow.

Replying, the Pakistan High Commissioner thanked Alhaji Maitama Sule for his "eloquent speech"

He emphasised that Pakistan was strongly in support of one Nigeria adding that if Nigeria disintegrated, it would not be in the interest of Africa and all developing nations.

He expressed pride at the achievements of the Ahmadiyya Mission not only in Nigeria but in other parts of the world and said that the Pakistani government would continue to support the orgnisation in its efforts to preach equality and the spiritual development of all human beings.

Earlier, the secretary of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Centre for the northern states, Alhaji Abdulaziz Haliru, had enumerated a number of remarkable achievements of the missionary in the country.

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Thanks. *Managing Editor*

Prisoner of the Past

The Authority of Pope Paul VI is threatened. It is being attacked from all sides and by all types of peoples of different nationalities. Recently (in the second half of October) a meeting of 144 Bishops, arch-Bishops and Cardinals who represented national Conferences of Bishops of 92 Countries was held in Rome. The over-riding subject on its agenda was: the practical application of Collegeality, or shared authority, which was enunciated during Vatican II. The meeting was bent upon deciding whether the Bishop should rule only with the advice of his Bishops, as Rome insists, or should he allow the Bishops Co-responsibility with him.

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The Time (October 17 1969) says about the meeting "Not since Vatican II had so broad an assembly of prelates, priests and theologions converged on Rome. Never, in modern times, had the seat of Roman Catholic Church itself been under such combined attack from visitors."

It also reports that "Representing 3,500 of their Colleagues in eight European nations, the priests boldly declared the Church was a "Prisoner of the past" and announced that the theme of their gathering was "Free the church to free the world". One way to free the Church, they suggested, was to establish an elected papacy and episcopate with limited terms of office."

The participatns asked the blessings of the the Pope on the meeting. Instead, the Vatican quietly arranged the meeting not to be held on Catholic premises—they went to a Protestant Church nearby.

Muslim World

Lebanon :

In the third week of October, the Lebanon troops were ordered against Palestinian Commandos. As a result of this the Prime Minister Rashid Karami resigned his post, for, he did not agree with this action which he believed to be opposed to the Arab interests.

The security forces in Lebanese city of Tripoli fired on the demonstrators who were gathering in the city's main mosque. This demonstration was taking place against the indefinite curfew that had been clamped on the major cities.

In this conflict Jamal Abdul Nasir, President of the U. A. R. is reported to be on the side of the Guerillas to whom he has sent a message that he is in constant touch with the Lebanese Government.

Somalia :

Somalia has been renamed "Democratic Republic of Somalia" by the military leaders who siezed powers towards the end of October.

The military seized the power in a bloodless coup by overthrowing the Government headed by Mr. Ibrahim Egal. The reports received indicate that the people of the country are happy over this change.

The constitution has been suspended and the Parliament dissolved. All the Deputies have been told to return to their constituencies.

The army took over six days after the assassination of the 50 year old President Abdur Rashid Ali Shermarke.

Turkey :

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Mr. Suleman Demirels's party—Justice Party——has won the General Elections in the country.

The Prime Minister Demirel told the newsmen that his party had shaped a new Turkey from the one it found when it took office in 1965. "By 1973, we hope to see that yet another Turkey has emerged" he said.

The Republican Peoples Party of Ismet Inonu (who is now 85 and one of the surviving Colleagues of Mustafa Kamal) has increased its share of the overall vote by five percent.

Pakistan :

The voters for the next election began enlisting on the 19th of October. The first to do so was President A.M. Yahya Khan. The registration officer enrolling the President was accompanied by the Commissioner of Rawalpindi Disivison and the Deputy Commissioner.

When General Sher Ali Khan, Central Minister for Information, reached London——after leading the Pakistani delegation in the General Assembly of the UNO——he told the news-reporters that he had told the Indian Foreign Minister that Pakistan was ready for meaningful negotiations to settle Kashmir and Farakha problems. He further remarked that he was sorry to see Indian prestige so low at the U. N.

Pakistan has asked India to take immediate steps to ensure security to the life and property of the Muslims in the country and that no Muslims are pushed across the border into Pakistan.

A COMPREHENSIVE

COMMENTARY

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